

2011 Schedule of Events

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park



Gap Cave

A two-hour adventure awaits as you explore Gap Cave with its majestic stalagmites, striking stalactites and shimmering flowstone. Step into the music room and listen for the whispers of a Civil War Soldier. Catch a glimpse of a little brown bat or a cave salamander. Reservations are recommended and can be made up to

one month in advance of the trip date. All tours meet at the Daniel Boone parking area.

This tour involves a 1.5 mile walk; 183 steps must be negotiated within the cave. For the safety of all, no children under the age of five are permitted on the cave tour. Wearing of sandals or cros in the cave is not allowed.

Adults - \$8.00

Seniors with Interagency Senior Pass - \$4.00

Children five through twelve - \$4.00

January 1 - April 3

Weekends only at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

April 4 - May 28

Weekdays at 10:00 a.m.

Weekends at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

May 29 - September 4

Daily at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

September 5 - November 26

Weekdays at 10:00 a.m.

Weekends at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

November 27 - December 31

Weekends only at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.



Hensley Settlement

Visit historic Hensley Settlement for a nostalgic look into early 20th century Appalachia. Meander down fence lined lanes, peek into the blacksmith's shop,

look into the springhouse or sit in the one room school. In 1904, Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons joined forces to establish a homestead on the mountaintop. Using hand tools to split chestnut logs, the settlers began to build homes. Fences surrounded the cleared land, creating pastures and garden plots. A thriving community soon emerged. The land, suitable for raising sheep and growing crops for liquid spirits, supported the community of twelve farmsteads for more than forty years. Reservations are recommended and can be made up to one month in advance of the trip date. All tours depart from the park visitor center.

Visitors must be able to walk one mile through the settlement; comfortable clothing and walking shoes are a must. Bring a light snack and drink for the 3 1/2 hour tour.

Adults - \$10.00

Seniors with Interagency Senior Pass - \$5.00

Children twelve and under - \$5.00

May 22 - October 31

Daily at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

First and Third Tuesdays of Each Month Historic Clothing and Crafts Club

Come experience history up close while learning about historic clothing and crafts. Traditional sewing techniques will help bring the stories of the past to life.

All ability levels are welcome.

Visitor center at 5:30 p.m.

First Thursday of Each Month Cumberland Mountain Photography Club

Join fellow photo enthusiasts for an evening of photography demonstrations, techniques and tips designed to get that perfect photo!

Photographers of all ability levels are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Visitor center at 6:30 p.m.

February 26 Hidden History Lecture Series The Underground Railroad Quilt Code: Myth or Reality?

Join us as we welcome Dr. Alicestyne Turley, Pan African Studies Department at the University of Louisville, back to the park. Dr. Turley will be addressing the controversies surrounding the Underground Railroad and the Quilt Code. Were quilt patterns used as a form of communication between safe houses and escaping slaves traveling the Underground Railroad to freedom as many have claimed, or is this fascinating idea just a good story after all? Historians disagree – come and learn more for yourself!

Visitor center auditorium at 1:00 p.m.

March 4 and 5 Macrame' Magic

Master artist Jim Gentry demonstrates macramé, an ancient 13th century Arabian art characterized by decorative knots.

Cumberland Crafts, visitor center 10 a.m. to 4 p. m.

March 19 The Full Moon at Cumberland Gap

March brings the whispers of spring and the renewing of nature's wondrous cycle. As a full moon rises in the eastern sky, stroll with a ranger along the historic Wilderness Road. Uncover the visible and the obscure critters that make Cumberland Gap their home.

Thomas Walker parking area at 8:00 p.m.

March 26 Hidden History Lecture Series Appalachian Photographer Earl Palmer and His Work

Join us for an exciting opportunity to hear about the life and work of renowned Appalachian photographer Earl Palmer from Dr. Jean Haskell, the woman who wrote the definitive book on the "Blue Ridge Mountains' Roamin' Cameraman." Palmer spent his life photographing the Appalachian people and their daily routines. His work appeared in *Life* and *National Geographic* magazines. He donated more than 60 photos to Cumberland Gap National



Historical Park, many of which will be exhibited during the weeks leading up to the program. The majority of these feature Thomas Jefferson Cupp, a mountaineer who lived near Hensley Settlement. Dr. Haskell's book *The Appalachian Photographs of Earl Palmer* will be available for purchase at the visitor center.

Visitor center auditorium at 2:00 p.m.

April 16 and 23 Spring's Beauty Pageant

With the coming of spring, Mother Nature spreads her colorful apron upon the earth. Dazzling yellow wood sorrel, stunning violets, liverwort and delicate pink lady slippers are but a few of the colored gems scattered along the hillsides. With camera in hand, walk along the trails and find these wildflower treasures. Programs will include photography workshops led by photographers Harold Jerrell and John Graves.



Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 10:00 a.m.

April 17 Cumberland Gap By Moonlight

As a full moon illuminates the night sky creating a mysterious surrounding, walk with a ranger on the Wilderness Road. Be still ... listen to the night. Perhaps you will hear the spirits of those who came before.

Thomas Walker parking area at 8:00 p.m.

April 23

Junior Ranger CSI: Civil War. Scene. Investigation.



Where is "Long Tom," the giant cannon left behind by Civil War soldiers?? Investigate earthworks and fortifications, soldiers' camping grounds and traces of frantic retreats and help solve the mystery surrounding Long Tom.

Visitor center at 10:00 a.m.

April 30th, May 1, 2, 3, and 4
"It's All About the Strings"

Artisan Rick Long demonstrates his finely honed skills in creating bowed psalteries, stringed instruments akin to ancient folk harps. For an encore, he'll play a tune or two for as Jim explains "It's all about the strings."

Cumberland Crafts, visitor center 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

May 6 and 7
Cumberland Gap Dulcimer Gathering

The beating of the drone stirs something deep within and carries you back to a bygone time. Listen to the enchanting melody of the dulcimer. Tap your feet to the exhilarating rhythm as the **Wilderness Road Dulcimer Club and Friends** shares songs of long ago.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater
Workshops begin at 10:00 a.m.
Concerts begin at 6:30 p.m.

May 14
A Shady, Wet World

Step into the shady, wet world of a mountain stream community. Hidden in streams, beneath rocks and under logs, lurk fascinating creatures waiting to be discovered.

Sugar Run picnic area at 10:00 a.m.

May 28 - September 3
Every Saturday Night
Evening Around the Campfire

Around the glowing embers of a campfire, tales of long ago begin to emerge. Learn about the lives of the early settlers traveling the Wilderness Road. Hear intriguing stories of Civil War



soldiers during Morgan's retreat. Listen to the saga of women on the frontier. Learn intriguing tidbits about animals that live in the forest.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m.
In case of rain, the program will be in the visitor center auditorium.

May 28

An Evening of Ragtime and Blues

Middlesboro, Kentucky is renowned for being built in a meteorite crater and for being the home of Lee Majors. But the birthplace of Ragtime music?

Local musician **Larry Goodwin** leads us on a musical journey and chronicles how the fusion of African-American and local music styles heard in the Middlesboro's saloons during its boom days of the 1890's led to the genre of Ragtime which influenced the blues. Of course, Larry will also entertain with quite a few tunes.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m. In case of rain, the program will be in the visitor center auditorium.

May 29
Honoring America's Warriors

Maneuver through the past via this virtual visit to America's memorials and battlegrounds during our special remembrance of the warriors and the places that made history!



Visitor center auditorium at 2:00 p.m.

June 4
Rally Around The Gap

Listen to a soldier's heartwarming diary describing events while stationed at Cumberland Gap during the War Between the States. Hear the spellbinding songs of **Sparky and Rhonda Rucker** as they recount the annals of Billy Yank and Johnny Reb.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m. In case of rain, the program will be in the visitor center auditorium.

June 9, 10, 11 and 12
Genealogy Jamboree

An estimated 48 million Americans can trace their ancestors to the migration through the Cumberland Gap. Learn how to find your forefather through unique venues located on both sides of the nation's first doorway to the west. Nationally renowned genealogical speakers, traditional crafts people and tradesmen will gather in the Towne of Cumberland Gap and at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park.

Call the visitor center for detailed information on locations and times.

June 11
Beneath the Surface of the Civil War

Venture deep into the underground chambers of Cumberland Mountain! We'll enter the old Soldier's Cave where forgotten stories of Cumberland Gap amidst the darkness of the Civil War will be illuminated.

Daniel Boone parking area; tours begin at 6:00 p.m.
Reservations required. Cave tour fees apply; no children under five are allowed.

June 18
Listen to the Whistle Blow

Railroad enthusiast and musician **Roy Harper** dusts off forgotten song relics of the past and brings them to life again. Through story and song, learn about the Cumberland Gap railroad tunnel and the importance of railroads during the Civil War.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m. In case of rain, the program will be in the visitor center auditorium.

June 25 and 26
Life On The Frontier

Join the pioneer settlers' camp as they travel Daniel Boone's Trace into the promised land of Kentucky!

Visitor center cabin
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



July 2
Soft Mountain Breeze

Through many years of performing **Jimmy Mullins and Ken Childress** have developed a signature blend of great singing, pickin' and colorful stories. The duo will delight all with "old timey" tunes, the blues and traditional mountain music.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m. In case of rain, the program will be in the visitor center auditorium.

July 16 and 17
School of the Soldier

Watch Civil War soldiers practicing their drills, hear the drums roll and learn the Rebel Yell!

Visitor center cabin 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

July 22 and 23
Junior Ranger CSI: Campout. Secret. Investigation.

Junior Rangers and their families will find non-stop adventure as we camp out, learn, and investigate a storehouse of treasures hidden in Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Meet rangers on Friday night for fun, food and s'mores! Camp overnight and on Saturday morning we'll investigate the park's hidden treasures!



Reservations required; space limited.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m.

July 29, 30 and 31
Craft Heritage Days

Cornshuck dolls, weaving, spinning, macramé and the bowed psaltry all come to life as a host of artisans demonstrate their crafts.

Cumberland Crafts, visitor center 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

July 30
Appalachia: Play, Sing and Work

Hear the sounds of *John Henry's* hammer, the call of *Timber* or the baying of *Old Bangum* on the trail of a raccoon. Listen to **Ted Olson** sing traditional songs about making a living in the mountains.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m.

August 6
Junior Ranger CSI: Cave. Scene. Investigation.

Go where no visitor has gone before as we investigate several levels of Gap Cave, discovering secrets hidden in dark passageways and strange habitats!



For Junior Rangers 9 to 15 years old; children under 12 must be accompanied by no more than one adult.

Reservations required; space limited.

Daniel Boone parking area at 10:00 a.m.

August 20

Life On The Frontier

Join the **pioneer settlers' camp** as they travel Daniel Boone's Trace into the promised land of Kentucky!

Visitor center cabin 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

September 3

Within the Shadows of Cumberland Gap Heritage Walk

Cumberland Gap's rich history is filled to the brim with chapters of the Cherokee and Shawnee, longhunters and pioneers, Civil War soldiers, industrialists and park visitors! Walk the Wilderness Road Trail through the historic Gap and meet the figures in each riveting chapter.

Daniel Boone parking area at 7:00 p.m.

After the 1.5 mile long walk a shuttle service will be provided from the Thomas Walker parking area back to the Daniel Boone parking area.

September 17

Hidden History Lecture Series

The Civil War Comes to Cumberland Gap

Dr. Earl Hess commemorates the 150th anniversary of the first significant military actions of the Civil War at Cumberland Gap. In September 1861, Confederate forces under General Felix Zollicoffer, marched north into the Yellow Creek Valley. They overpowered the Unionist home guard, establishing Camp Buckner at the Cumberland Ford. The South would continue to hold Cumberland Gap until June of 1862.



Dr. Earl Hess, chair of the History Department and Stewart McClelland Distinguished Professor in Humanities at Lincoln Memorial University, has written numerous books and journal articles on the Civil War, including *Banners to the Breeze: The Kentucky Campaign, Corinth, and Stones River*. His *Pickett's Charge - The Last Attack at Gettysburg*, received the James I. Robertson Literary Prize for Confederate History in 2002 and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

Visitor center at 2:00 p.m.

September 24

Junior Ranger CSI: Captive. Survival. Instincts.



National Parks rangers often are sent on S.A.R. (search and rescue) missions to find children lost in wilderness areas. Help your children learn survival instincts and techniques should they ever become a "captive" of the wilderness!

Visitor center at 1:00 p.m.

October 1

Hensley Homecoming

Take a step back in time and experience life on top of Brush Mountain. Amidst hand hewn cabins, pastoral fields, and split rail fences, living historians will showcase the story of early Appalachia through demonstrations, stories, and music. The Hensley Settlement will be open for visitors with 4 wheel or front wheel drive. **The Shillalah Creek Road will be open for travel up to the settlement from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The road will be open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for travel down from the settlement.**

October 8

Hike to Hensley Settlement

Join rangers in hiking the Chadwell Gap trail to Hensley Settlement. Learn about historic coke ovens, marvel at unique geologic formations and search for fall wildflowers. This strenuous seven-mile round trip hike includes a 2000-foot elevation gain in the first two miles. Bring plenty of food and water!

Chadwell Gap trailhead at 9:00 a.m.

October 11

Hunter's Moon Hike

Stroll along Athawominee, or the Path of the Armed Ones, under the Hunter's Moon. Listen to the night sounds along the way. Stand in the footsteps of the Native Americans and imagine their treks to their hunting grounds.

Thomas Walker parking area at 7:00 p.m.



October 15 and 22

Early Light at the Hensley Settlement

Experience Hensley Settlement in the morning's "golden light." This trip, designed for artists and photographers, will involve an early shuttle to the settlement with the opportunity to stay for the day!



Meet at the park visitor center at 6:00 a.m.

Reservations are recommended and can be made up to one month in advance of the trip date. Hensley Settlement shuttle fees apply.

November 6

Tracing the Migration of Songs Between Scotland and Ireland to North America

As Scots and Ulster Scots emigrated to America, they carried with them a rich oral tradition of song and ballad singing. Join musicians Sara Grey and Kieron Means as they trace the migration of these songs and share the impacts which they had on Appalachian music. This renowned mother/son team will expect you to enthusiastically chime in on choruses and refrains.

Visitor center auditorium at 2:00 p.m.

November 11

Retiring Old Glory

Old Glory remains a symbol of independence, hope, pride and love of country. Flags, once brilliant and glorious but now tattered and torn, must be retired with dignity and respect. Come... witness the solemn ceremony as Old Glory is laid to rest.



Visitor center flagpole at 5:00 p.m.

November 12

Hidden History Lecture Series

Filling in the Gaps

National Park Service Archeologist Tom DesJean showcases the science of archeology and its role in advancing our understanding of prehistory and supplementing the written record. DesJean illustrates how controlled excavations provide the scientific data that are used to discover past human behavior.

Visitor center auditorium at 2:00 p.m.

November 19

Owl Prowl

Join park rangers for an adventure into the forest for an unforgettable encounter with a nocturnal predator. Learn incredible facts about the owl. Listen closely... in the stillness, you may hear its call.

Visitor center at 7:00 p.m.

December 10

A Taste of Christmas Past

Join us for an old fashioned Christmas. Decorate gingerbread men, make special gifts for loved ones, and remember the slower pace of the Appalachian Christmas of long ago.

Visitor center at 10:00 a.m.

Additional programs may be added throughout the year.

**Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, 91 Bartlett Park Road, Middlesboro, KY 40965
(606) 248-2817, extension 1075 or www.nps.gov/cuga**

Programs sponsored by the National Park Service, Cumberland Crafts of the Southern Highland Craft Guild, Eastern National and Friends of Cumberland Gap.

